

in Oxnard, California, and St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital in Camarillo, California.

Catherine McAuley founded Sisters of Mercy in Dublin, Ireland, in the early 1800s, serving those who suffered from poverty, illness and a lack of education. In 1912, a small band of Sisters of Mercy began caring for the sick and suffering in Ventura County, California.

St. John's Regional Medical Center and St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital are the modern-day manifestations of those early seeds.

The Catherine McAuley Lifetime Achievement Award pays tribute to members of the community for their contributions and volunteerism, commitment to society, and espousal of the charisma and values exemplified by Catherine McAuley.

Jack Broome and John W. Borchard, Jr., epitomize that charisma and those values.

Jack Broome was born in Chicago, but came to California early in his adult life to pursue farming opportunities in Ventura, Kern and Monterey counties. He is one of the key founders of Casa Pacifica and continues as a director. Jack currently serves on the University Board at Pepperdine University and the Board of Trustees of the House Ear Institute. He is chairman of the Ventura County Harbor Commission and the Pleasant Valley County Water District.

Jack's service to St. John's includes chairmanship of St. John's Regional Medical Center Foundation, director of the hospital board and longtime membership in The Humanitarians. He and his wife, Patricia, have three children and eight grandchildren.

John W. Borchard, Jr., was born at St. John's Hospital and raised on an Oxnard farm owned by his family in the 1860s. He left Ventura County long enough to graduate from the University of Notre Dame and serve a short stint at Eastman Kodak in New York before returning to his roots. John has had leadership roles on boards and committees of no less than 25 organizations. He served the Oxnard Elementary and High Schools, the City of Oxnard, the Oxnard Elks, lima bean and citrus cooperatives, and for 20 years served as a director on the Ventura County Farm Bureau. After 16 years, he recently retired his post as chairman of the Satocoy Lemon Association. During that time he also served on the Sunkist Growers, Inc., board, including 9 years on its executive board.

John has also served on the boards of St. John's Seminary and Seminary College in Camarillo.

John's service to St. John's began early, knocking on doors with his parents to raise money for the building. In 1968 he became a Humanitarian and served 7 years as chairman. He served as a trustee of St. John's Regional Medical Center Foundation through two building campaigns.

John and his wife, Nancy, have six children and 11 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Jack Broome and John W. Borchard, Jr., for earning this prestigious distinction and join the Foundations of St. John's Regional Medical Center and St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital in honoring them for a lifetime of service to their community.

CONGRATULATING TOM KEATING ON BEING NAMED THE MINNESOTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR 2004

HON. MARK. R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Tom Keating on being named the Minnesota Teacher of the Year for 2004. He received this award at a ceremony on Sunday, May 2, 2004, in front of his wife, Mary Sue, also a teacher, their four children and his friends and colleagues. This year, there were a record 150 nominees for the award, and Keating was selected from among 10 finalists.

Born in Minneapolis, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in health and physical education from St. Cloud State University. He began his teaching career at Foley High School in 1971. In 1982, he joined the Monticello public schools teaching a variety of subjects. He has also developed his own programs, including S.U.P.E.R. (Students Using Peers to Educate Responsibly) and the school's youth service program. In 1990, he went back to school himself and received his M.A. in curriculum and instruction from the University of St. Thomas. He is now a multi-subject teacher at the Turning Point Alternative School in Monticello.

Mr. Speaker, it is teachers like Tom Keating that embody the commitment to students that all teachers strive to possess. His hard work and dedication to his students and his support for children that, in his words, are in danger of falling away, are just two of the reasons he deserved this important honor. I join his colleagues, friends, students, and all Minnesotans in congratulating him on his achievements.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF ROBERT PRUITTE

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late Robert Pruitte, a good friend who always gave me useful advice. The Wilson County, Tennessee, resident was a pillar of strength in his community and an admired activist in the Democratic Party.

In honor of Robert and all he did for his community, the Wilson County Democratic Party is instituting an annual event in his memory called the "Robert Pruitte Democratic Celebration." The event will be used to raise funds for a scholarship in his name and to promote the Democratic Party. Robert would have been proud to know his name was associated with giving deserving children an opportunity to excel in higher education.

Robert worked four decades for TRW and was an international representative for the United Auto Workers. He worked hard for his company, the union he represented and the family he loved. And he was always willing to give time of himself to promote worthy causes in his community.

Robert was an honorable man with impeccable character and a thirst for life. He is sorely missed by all those who knew him. But his legacy will live on through this newly created event that aims to help children get a quality education and allow others to share in his political philosophy. Robert was truly the epitome of decency and dedication.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
CRAIG BAER ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Craig Baer of Middle Point, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Mr. Speaker, Craig's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point with the incoming cadet class of 2008. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Craig brings a special mix of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of West Point cadets. While attending Lincolnview High School, Craig has attained a weighted grade point average of 4.021, which ranks 9th out of the 61 students in his class. During his time at Lincolnview High School, Craig has received several commendations for his superior scholastic efforts. During his first year, Craig was named to the Gold Honor Roll and received the World History GPA Award. His second year was again marked by his being named to the Gold Honor Roll along with being named a Northwest Conference Scholar athlete. Craig has maintained this high level of achievement throughout his tenure at Lincolnview High School.

Outside the classroom, Craig has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete and dedicated citizen of Middle Point, Ohio. On the fields of friendly strife, Craig has participated in Cross Country, Track and Basketball. He was Captain of the Basketball team as a freshman and has lettered in Track and Cross Country. In addition to his athletic accomplishments, Craig is an active member in his community by participating in Spanish Club, Student Council, was elected Junior Class President, and was named to the National Honor Society.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Craig Baer. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Craig will do very well during his career at West Point and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.